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COVID-19 UPDATE

Since Monday, 150 Residents Have Tested Positive, 95 More Have Recovered, and City Learns of Four New Fatalities Associated with COVID-19;

Sector-Specific Relief Grant Program for Massachusetts Small Businesses; Reminder: Free Walk-up COVID-19 Testing for Framingham Residents at the South Middlesex Opportunity Council Concludes Today and Testing Schedule at State's Project Beacon Site Adjusted Due to Holiday Closure at Labs;

City Hall to be Closed Friday, January 1, for the New Year's Day Holiday

- Since Monday, 150 residents have tested positive, 95 more have recovered, and the City learns of four new fatalities associated with COVID-19: The number of people in the City who have tested positive for COVID-19 is 5,021. With 3,778 recovered and 181 fatalities, Framingham currently has 1,062 active cases. The Framingham Health Department contacts the people who were potentially exposed and the owners of the businesses or places of employment where the potential exposures occurred to inform and counsel them on next steps (contact tracing). In addition to the active cases, the Health Department is following 487 residents in guarantine.
- Sector-Specific Relief Grant Program for Massachusetts Small Businesses: Last week, the Baker-Polito Administration announced a \$668 million program to provide financial assistance to Massachusetts small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible businesses can receive up to \$75,000, capped at three months' operating expenses, to be used for employee wage and benefits costs, mortgage interest, rent, utilities, and interest on other debt obligations. The application period will open on December 31st at noon, and close at 11:59 p.m. on January 15th, 2021. View more information, including eligibility requirements, here. Grant information will be available in multiple languages, including Portuguese and Spanish.
- Reminder: Free walk-up COVID-19 testing for Framingham residents at the South Middlesex
 Opportunity Council (SMOC) concludes today at 1 p.m., and testing schedule at State's Project
 Beacon site located in Framingham adjusted due to holiday closure at labs: Free walk-up
 COVID-19 testing for Framingham residents at SMOC, 7 Bishop Street, concludes today at 1 p.m.
 as the City's contract with Transformative Health (test taker) ends.
 Schedule for the State's Project Beacon Express COVID-19 Testing Site located in Framingham:
 - Wednesday, December 39: Operating with limited hours, fewer appointments available
 - Thursday, December 31: CLOSED
 - o Friday, January 1, 2021: CLOSED